Special Program Options

BS/MS and Dual Degree Programs

These accelerated dual degree programs permit undergraduates to earn credits toward a master’s degree or a doctoral degree. Students in BS/MS normally take 6 credits of graduate course work in their senior year. Exceptional students with a cumulative GPA higher than 3.5 may take 9 credits of graduate course work in their senior year. These credits may be counted toward both a bachelor’s degree and a following master’s degree if enrollment as a graduate student in the master’s degree program occurs within two years of completion of the bachelor’s degree. After enrollment as a graduate student, those who wish to apply the 6 or 9 credits to the graduate degree program should contact the Office of Graduate Studies. Graduate study may be completed full or part-time.

Full-time undergraduate students become eligible to apply for the BS/MS program after they complete at least five courses in their major and have maintained a GPA of 3.0 or better. Students in the Albert Dorman Honors College are pre-approved for the BS/MS program at the time of admission to NJIT but will receive letters about activating their status in BS/MS if their GPA is still above 3.0 and have earned between 57 and 110 undergraduate credits. The activation letter will instruct Honors College students about contacting the Office of Graduate Studies. All other students with a 3.0 or better GPA will have to submit an application to the Office of Graduate Studies no later than one year prior to graduation. The application will list the graduate courses to be taken in the senior year and requires the signatures of the undergraduate and graduate advisors. Applicants must satisfy all university requirements for admission to graduate programs (they must eventually submit an application to Admissions).

Exceptional students may seek to go into an NJIT doctoral program directly through the BS/PhD program and must have a record consistent with university criteria for doctoral study (3.5 GPA or better). GRE scores are required for doctoral admission.

Several other combinations of Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees exist or are under development. The number of dual-use credits for these combinations may exceed 6 credits in accordance with specific program requirements. Two examples are the B. Arch/MS and the BS/MBA programs which allow 12 dual-use credits. Information and applications for BS/MS, BS/PhD, and other accelerated dual degree programs can be obtained from the Office of Graduate Studies, Suite 140 Fenster Hall.

MS/MS and Dual Master’s Programs

The MS/MS program allows students to pursue a second NJIT Master of Science degree on completion of the first and to count two courses (6 credits) from the first degree toward the second. The option must be exercised within two years of completion of the first degree. The approval of the advisors of the two programs is required. The Office of Graduate Studies will direct the Registrar on transfer of the two dual-use courses to the second program. The MS/MS program option is not intended for students who have left the doctoral program without completion of the degree. Up to 6 credits may be transferred to the second Master’s degree from outside NJIT. Thesis, project, pre-doctoral research, independent research and similar courses may not be used.

Several other Master’s degree combinations can allow more than 6 credits to count toward both degrees. In general, these apply to situations in which the first or the second degree programs require considerably more than 30 credits. Examples are the Master of Architecture and the Master of Business Administration programs. The allowable dual counting of credits for the Master of Architecture in combination with other programs is described in the catalog sections on Architecture and Infrastructure Planning. Subject to specific course approval and the two year time limit for MS/MS as described above, up to 12 credits from a previously completed NJIT MS program in Computer Science, Information Systems, or Engineering Management may be applied toward completion of the 48 credit Master of Business Administration degree program. Subject to course approval, up to 18 credits may be used from a previously completed NJIT MS program in Management toward the completion of the 48 credit Master of Business Administration degree program.

The Collaborative Doctorate

The Collaborative Doctorate is designed for engineers, executives, scientists, military personnel, state and federal government employees, and educators who want to pursue a PhD while continuing full-time employment. The academic requirements are the same as for regular NJIT doctoral programs but the collaborative nature of the program also allows participants to draw on the combined expertise and resources of the university and their employer. Dissertation research is expected to investigate or develop an original contribution to science, technology or management. Research may be experimental, analytical, applied or theoretical provided that it satisfies all criteria set by the dissertation committee.

Students must be recommended by employers who also must commit to a proposed area of research in concert with the dissertation committee. The student’s employer is expected to suggest a researcher to serve on the student’s Ph.D. dissertation committee. This researcher may also become the student’s PhD dissertation co-advisor after approval by the department and the Associate Provost for Graduate Studies. Employers who have a proprietary interest in the student’s dissertation research, including patent, copyright and technology transfer rights, are expected to execute formal IP (Intellectual Property) agreements with the university prior to the start of the dissertation research.

The Collaborative Doctorate is available in all academic disciplines that award the PhD degree.
Special Program Options

Students must meet university requirements for admission to doctoral programs and their dissertation research must satisfy university policies. They are expected to continue employment until they complete all degree requirements. Annual reviews of progress will be conducted. Students may perform dissertation research at their employer's facilities.

The student's dissertation committee defines residency requirements. It is expected that the employer will permit a concentrated effort on dissertation research. Seminar requirements are also defined by the dissertation committee, and may allow presentations or attendance at professional society meetings in place of on-campus seminars.

For more information about the program or to discuss potential paths that can lead to the degree, contact the Associate Provost of Graduate Studies (http://www.njit.edu/graduatestudies/contact.php).

Student Exchange/Study Abroad

NJIT offers a number of international exchange opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students throughout the world. Through established exchange agreements, participants are provided with opportunities to enhance their technological skills, expand their cultural horizons, and gain educational experience from an international perspective. Students gain firsthand knowledge of political, social, and economic systems of a rapidly changing world.

Students may elect to study for one semester or for a full time academic year. NJIT students pay tuition and fees at NJIT and room and board at the host institution. Financial aid may be applied to these expenses.

With the prior written approval of the student's academic advisor, academic credit may be awarded for courses taken while participating in an international exchange program. Some programs may require proficiency in the language of the host country, especially if the language of instruction for course work is not English.

For further information, contact the Office of International Students and Faculty, (973) 596-2451 or visit http://oisf.njit.edu/study_abroad.php.

Community and Public Service

Graduate students may also receive financial support through participation in the NJIT Service Corps. Through experiential learning activities, students link classroom theory and concepts with practical application, contribute their expertise and develop leadership, decision-making and interpersonal skills through involvement with non-profit and governmental agencies and community-based organizations.

- Community Service Work Study: Off-campus employment that is course- and major-related in non-profit and governmental agencies and community-based organizations for eligible Federal Work Study graduate students.
- Housing Scholars: Merit-based, competitive full-time summer employment in community-based organizations that design and develop plans for affordable housing projects around the state. Students pursuing graduate degrees in civil engineering, management, computer science and computer engineering who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents, have completed 6 credits of graduate study, are in good academic standing, have satisfied all other university requirements for financial support, and are approved by their department's co-op advisor are eligible to apply. Architecture students may apply after completing 14 credits of first-year required graduate courses and if they have an overall cumulative 3.2 GPA or above. However, participation cannot begin until 28 credits are completed.
- Service Learning: Course-based, students can register for classes that include a community Service Learning option or register for faculty-monitored independent study that includes a community Service Learning component.

For more information, contact the Division of Career Development Services, Community and Public Service, (973) 596-3100.